

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Shinji YAMAKAWA

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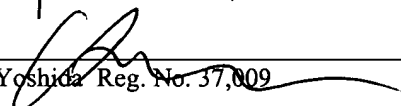
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For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING CHARACTER EDGE AREA
DATA

I, Ken I. Yoshida, Registration No. 37,009 certify
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On April 10, 2001


Ken I. Yoshida Reg. No. 37,009

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as
follows:

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 2-294884 discloses an image separation technique to
determine character regions based upon the lowest level color component image data.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 2-295357 discloses an image separation technique to
determine a dot pattern based upon the lowest level color component image data.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 10-23251 discloses an image separation device and technique to tertiorize image data to extract white regions and black regions and the extracted regions are further compared to a set of predetermined matching patterns to select line image edges.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 10-108012 discloses an image separation device and technique to detect areas, dot pattern regions, white background regions, and based upon the above detection, the regions are determined as a part of a character or a picture.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 3-64251 discloses a control technique in which an operator modifies a SEG signal to determine a scanning direction intensity change detection level T1, a sub-scanning direction intensity change detection level T2, a diagonal scanning direction intensity change detection level T3 and a dot pattern determination level T4 for determining a character/picture determination so as to adjust priority for the character processing or the photograph processing based upon the character/picture determination.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 5-292312 discloses a prior art technique to detect a dot pattern peak pixel and to determine a calculated value for distribution of the dot pattern peak pixel in a predetermined size area. The calculated value is compared to a threshold value to determine whether or not the predetermined size is a dot pattern region.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 9-247481 discloses a prior art technique for dot pattern determination for each of C, M and Y image data.

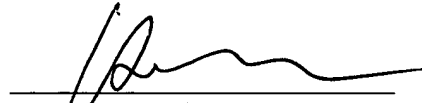
Japanese Patent No. 2856867 discloses a prior art color processing device for applying single black color in a black character region that is a picture area which is surrounded by black character edge regions.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 7-95397 discloses a prior art device to detect edges and high intensity regions in order to prevent the blurring of small characters and white regions

inside thick lines of high-intensity thick characters. The prior art device recognizes that high-intensity regions surrounded by edges within a predetermined distance is a character region. The prior art device provides an appropriate process for each of the recognized regions.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 10, 2001



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